

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 NSC-05 NSCE-00 L-01 EUR-08

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 265480

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UN, US, PO, AO

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE APPLICATION OF ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVE-
MENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN UN

REF: A) USUN 5533; B) LUSAKA 2116

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1. WITH NOVEMBER 11 INDEPENDENCE DATE FOR ANGOLA ONLY A FEW DAYS AWAY, DEPT HAS ALSO BEEN CONSIDERING QUESTION OF POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS FOR ANGOLAN MEMBERSHIP IN UN BY ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. WE ANTICIPATE MPLA APPLICATION, AND DO NOT DISCOUNT POSSIBILITY OF APPLICATION BY FNLA/UNITA AS WELL. WE WILL NOT SUPPORT ADMISSION OF MPLA DOMINATED GOVERNMENT AT THIS STAGE.

2. CHARTER PROVIDES IN ARTICLE 4 THAT MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO PEACE-LOVING STATES WHICH ACCEPT CHARTER OBLIGATIONS AND, IN UN'S JUDGMENT, ARE ABLE AND WILLING TO CARRY OUT THESE OBLIGATIONS. A STATE THAT LACKS A GOVERNMENT WHICH IS ABLE TO DIRECT THE POPULATION AND RESOURCES OF THAT STATE IS NOT IN A POSITION TO CARRY OUT THE OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP. ACCORDINGLY, PENDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A GOVERNMENT, IT WOULD NOT IN OUR VIEW BE APPROPRIATE TO ADMIT TO MEMBERSHIP THE STATE OF ANGOLA.

3. THUS BECAUSE SITUATION IN ANGOLA IS STILL CONFUSED, AND OUTCOME OF CURRENT OAU EFFORT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, IT APPEARS PREMATURE FOR SC TO DEAL WITH MEMBERSHIP QUESTION. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT MPLA--DESPITE ITS CLAIMS TO CONTRARY--CONTROLS LESS THAN THIRD OF TERRITORY AND POPULATION OF ANGOLA (AND ONLY SIX OF ANGOLA'S SIXTEEN DISTRICT CAPITALS), IT WOULD NOT SEEM TO HAVE ANY LEGITIMATE CLAIM TO REPRESENT ANGOLA IN APPLYING FOR UN MEMBERSHIP. MOREOVER, PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT REMAINS FIRM IN ITS POLICY OF REFUSING TO TRANSFER SOVEREIGNTY TO ANY ONE MOVEMENT IN ANGOLA.

4. YOU SHOULD TELL BRITISH AND OTHER FRIENDLY SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS THAT US WOULD STRONGLY FAVOR SECURITY COUNCIL DELAYING WHOLE MEMBERSHIP ISSUE UNTIL THE SITUATION CLARIFIES AND THAT USDEL IS READY TO WORK WITH THEM AND OTHER FRIENDS TOWARDS THAT OBJECTIVE. WE RECOGNIZE THAT MALIK, AS NOVEMBER SC'S PRESIDENT, MAY STRONGLY SUPPORT MPLA APPLICATION AND MANEUVER FOR EARLY MEETING. YOU SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT IF MEETING IS NEVERTHELESS CALLED, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT MPLA APPLICATION. WE WOULD HOPE THAT UK, FRANCE, ITALY, SWEDEN, COSTA RICA, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND PROBABLY CHINA WOULD ABSTAIN ON MPLA APPLICATION, WITH RESULT THAT APPROVAL COULD BE DEFEATED BY ABSTENTIONS. WHAT WOULD POSITION OF CAMEROON BE? REQUEST YOU DISCUSS FOREGOING WITH FRIENDLY AFRICANS AND GIVE US YOUR (AND THEIR) JUDGMENT WHETHER MPLA APPLICATION COULD BE DEFEATED BY ABSTENTIONS AND, IF NOT, WHETHER FRANCE AND UK WOULD JOIN US IN VOTING AGAINST MPLA APPLICATION.

5. FINALLY, IF APPLICATION IS MADE BY FNLA/UNITA, YOU SHOULD REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT. EVEN THOUGH SUCH AN APPLICATION HAS NOT BEEN PRESENTED, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WRONG TO MOVE AHEAD ON MPLA APPLICATION BEFORE SITUATION CLARIFIED AND BEFORE AFRICANS REACH AGREEMENT ON HOW MATTER SHOULD BE HANDLED.

6. IF YOU RECEIVE PRESS INQUIRIES YOU SHOULD SAY SIMPLY THAT US IS WAITING TO SEE HOW SITUATION DEVELOPS BEFORE TAKING A POSITION.

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